ROSA AMERICANA, LTD.

FIXED PRICE LIST #20

Summer, 2019 – our 30th Year in Business!

Welcome to our 20th Price List – a gap of nearly 9 years (!) since our previous list (though we were selling colonials privately, at shows and on eBay during that time). Our previous price lists were known for their sheer heft: in physical size they more resembled books, with descriptions that went into great detail. But the era of the printed and mailed price list was coming to an end as commerce increasingly shifted online, and it didn't make sense to spend thousands of dollars to print and mail something that many people just did not save. Bob Dylan sang the times they are a-changin' – and we had to a-change with them. Eventually.

This is the first of what we hope will be many offerings which retain some of the flavor of our past price lists. These will be e-mailed out (and eventually archived on a website) on a much more frequent basis, with two to three lists a year being the goal. They will be smaller in size, offering 50-75 coins, and will have enlarged full color photos of each coin (and we are happy to email even larger images to anyone who wants to examine a piece more closely). The descriptions will remain detailed and accurate, with a smattering of historical information included, but the extensive pricing and comparison information from past auctions and price lists will not be done – the Newman Numismatic Portal and the Stack's Bowers and Heritage auction archive sites make that data easy enough for collectors today to get with a few keystrokes (though we will occasionally share a link for previous auctions that the collector can use as a starting point for their own research). What won't change is our commitment to your happiness. Every coin is guaranteed to be genuine and comes with a no questions asked/no reason needed return policy for a full 2 weeks after you receive it. Study it, research it, compare it with others – if it doesn't fit into your collection, then simply return it for a full refund.

Each list will offer a broad range of material, just not in the great depth our previous lists were known for. 200 Connecticut coppers in a single list can be overwhelming – even to a specialist – so instead we will offer a handful of different types and varieties for each series, in a price range of a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. The focus will be on original coins, collector grade and affordable examples of rarer varieties, coins with outstanding provenances to great collections of the past (on this list that includes Ford, Newman, Norweb and others), and pieces that are just simply cool and have a story to tell. We also hope to put together a small but interesting group of coins as the final lot of each list – this list has a group of very rare counterstamped colonial coins of different types, a highly collectible and very interesting area for the collector.

For those who have collected our older price lists and want to keep their set complete we will print up a small number of these new lists, likely 3-4 issues bound together in a single volume and printed once every year to year and a half. If you would like one, just let us know – we'll send details when they are available.

So sit back, relax and enjoy your read – ordering information can be found at the end of the list.

Jeff Rock

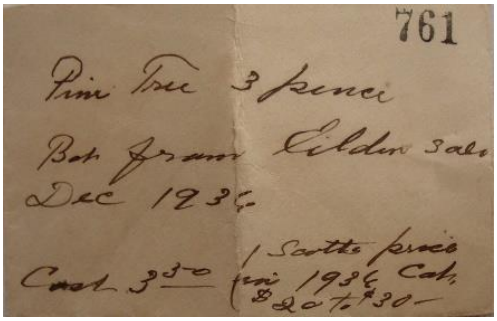
A Nice Large Planchet Pine Tree Shilling
Noe-4 variety, with a strong backwards N in the legend
With a clear S-bend from being struck on a rocker press!

Lot 1. 1652 Pine Tree Shilling. Noe 4, Salmon 4-D, Large Planchet type, with backwards N in IN on the obverse and first N in ENGLAND on the reverse. 65.8 grains. Rarity-4. Choice Very Fine, a well-struck and lightly circulated example of this popular type and very interesting variety. The large planchet essentially unclipped, which allows for the legends to be bold everywhere save the base of either side, and the planchet large enough to show some of the outer row of denticles on either side. The curious backwards N on the obverse is weaker, the one on the reverse is quite bold, these letters often seen partially off the planchet, especially when the coin was further clipped; there are five N's total on this variety and the engraver got three of them right and two of them wrong. The top of the tree a bit weak, the date and mintmark all there. Toned a deep gold, the reverse with some lighter blue and rose hues. Some light circulation marks on either side, expected for the grade, as well as some hairlines on the reverse above the date which are mostly hidden by the deep toning. The planchet shows clear evidence of being struck on a rocker press, with the characteristic S-shape bend – this feature stronger on some coins than others, and likely giving rise to the charming but historically inaccurate theory that these coins were bent as "witch pieces" and then straightened out later. A scarce variety, usually found in lower circulated grades, though some high grade examples do exist, including the Uncirculated Ford coin. A less attractive Very Fine sold for $4,112.50 in the Stack's-Bowers sale in June, 2012 (https://auctions.stacksbowers.com/lots/view/3-5WRTN); this one, with a much bolder backwards N, is priced at only……$3,750

The Very Rare Noe 13 Pine Tree Shilling
A contemporary counterfeit issue – clipped to an octagon shape!
Likely struck 1680-1690
One of the first American-made counterfeits!

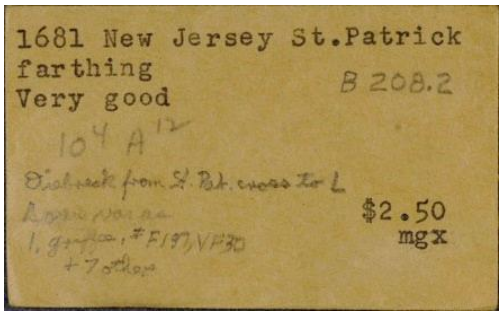
Lot 2. 1652 Pine Tree Shilling. Noe-13, Salmon Unlisted. Rarity-6. 41.6 grains. Very Good or better for the variety which is a CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT that was purposely weakly struck, and usually found on heavily-clipped, lightweight planchets. Only faint traces of the peripheral legends can be seen on this example, as the piece has been heavily clipped down to pretty much a perfect octagon shape – a Pine Tree shilling "stop sign!" The last three digits of the date are faint but visible, as are the II of the XII denomination; the obverse tree is mostly sharp at the center obverse, the distinct triangular leaves making the variety easy to attribute, even in lower grades – which is a good thing since that is pretty much how the variety comes. Nice light silver color, a few light marks from circulation as expected on a well-used coin, but nothing major. A charming example of a rare variety, especially given its unique shape. The die work and lettering are not so far off from the real Massachusetts silver issues to have caused much notice when these were made. It is interesting that all known specimens are on small, clipped planchets of roughly 40 grains – this means that the counterfeiters were not trying to make the coins look like the Small Planchet type shillings, but to actually make them look like well-used and heavily clipped Large Planchet types. While the silver content of Noe-13 varieties have not been tested it is likely that they are at least close to that found on Massachusetts Silver coins (which were themselves mostly made from melted down Spanish silver coins). The profit made by the counterfeiter likely came from these being circulated at the full shilling value, even though they were clearly 40% or so underweight – a 1692 Act stated "that the coyn of the late Massachusetts Colony shall pass currant at the rate it was stampt for" (the full text can be found in Crosby, page 99), which suggests that even heavily-clipped coins were passing at their full face value at this time. One of the more interesting varieties in the Massachusetts Silver series, undoubtedly a contemporary counterfeit made at a time that the large planchet types in circulation would have been well-worn and clipped, but still circulating alongside small planchet types, with the 1680-1690 period thus most likely. This time period would make it one of the very first struck counterfeits to be made in America (one variety of NE sixpence likely predates this as a counterfeit), and it is certainly a deceptively made one. Very seldom offered for sale, this example is just…….$2,250

A Pleasing 1652 Pine Tree Threepence
With a provenance to Tom Elder's December, 1936 auction, with the original Elder lot envelope!



Lot 3. 1652 Pine Tree Threepence. Noe-34, Salmon 1-A. Rarity-4. 16.8 grains. Fine to Very Fine, most details of the higher grade, with the usual weakness of strike found on these small-denomination issues, though both dies are better centered than normally seen on the threepence denomination. Much of the peripheral legend visible on either side, the tree mostly strong, the date and mintmark all there. Medium pewter color with lighter rose toning, a few light marks from circulation as expected for the grade, none too distracting. Accompanied by a rare piece of paper ephemera, the original lot ticket from Thomas Elder's auction of December 11, 1936 which offered the General C. McReeve and other collections, where this coin appeared as Lot 761 (the catalogue itself can be found on the Newman Numismatic Portal, but it is not an especially rare one and the next owner of this coin can easily find an original catalogue, which would make a wonderful companion piece). While some dealer's envelopes are fairly easy to obtain because collectors kept their coins in them (especially the Chapman envelopes), other major dealers have proven quite difficult to find, and Tom Elder is one of the toughest early 20th century dealers – likely for two reasons, first because they weren't a standard size (they are nearly 3x2 inches) and second because Elder didn't pay to have his name and address printed on these envelopes, meaning that over the years most were tossed because they weren't tied to any specific dealer – the foresight of the buyer of this one to annotate the envelope is likely the only reason it remained with the coin. A scarce denomination of Massachusetts silver, with an exceedingly rare lot envelope, all at only…….…….…….$1,900

A Rare St. Patrick's Farthing from the Eric Newman Collection
With nice color and surfaces



Lot 4. (ca. 1670) St. Patrick's Farthing. Martin 1b.1-Ba.1. High Rarity-6. Fine, nearly choice, in an NGC slab where this is graded F12. This example is from the ERIC P. NEWMAN collection, and appeared as Lot 30288 of the May, 2014 sale of the first portion of his colonial coins by Heritage, where it was ably described as follows:

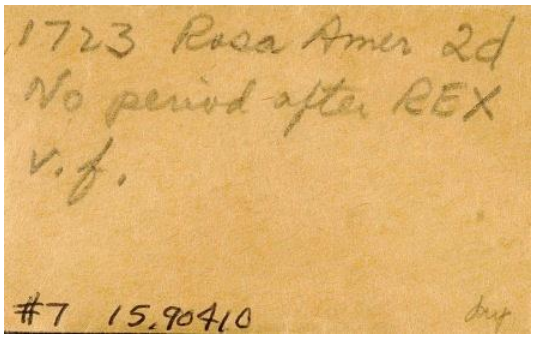
> **(c. 1670) FARTH St. Patrick Farthing Fine 12 NGC. Breen-208, W-11500.** At least 70 variants exist of the Breen-208 design type. Although slightly out of round, this piece displays good detail at the peripheries with unusually high rims. Weakness and heavy wear are confined to the centers. The faint brass splasher is spot-on the crown, appearing as subtle, dull-gray coloration. The surfaces show pleasing, glossy brown color, with smoothness from wear softening most of the planchet irregularities and minimizing porosity. A light die crack extends from St. Patrick's cross to the L in PLEBS. Specialists will note the uncommon positioning of the reverse elements, with St. Patrick's staff pointing directly to the L in PLEBS and his head fully beneath the T in QVIESCAT. All in all, a lovely example of the type and grade level. *Ex: Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society*

Since that was written the Syd Martin book on St. Patrick's issues has been published, and the variety proved to be a very rare one, rated by Martin as High R-6, and both this obverse and reverse die were used only in this combination. An attractive example, still in its distinct NGC holder with the special Newman label, and accompanied by the original lot ticket and Newman's distinct typed envelope which has extensive pencil annotations that were made by the late John Griffee when he examined Eric's collection. A very attractive example, the legends particularly strong, and with an exceptional provenance……...$1,150

The Unusual D:G: REX Rosa Americana Halfpenny
An affordable Redbook-listed major type coin

Lot 5. 1722 Rosa Americana Halfpenny, the popular D:G: REX variety. Martin 2.1-B.1. Rarity-3 [per Martin, likely a little more difficult to find than that]. Very Fine, a well-struck circulated example, the legends all there and mostly bold, the date sharp, and the design details as expected for the grade, the King's face with strong features, the hair showing even wear, the rose at the center of the reverse showing all the pellets within. Nice, fully original Bath Metal color, the attractive yellow hue different from anything else in circulation at the time. The surfaces are hard, with some light parallel scratches at the lower left reverse that appear to be adjustment marks. Always a popular issue, the only Rosa Americana obverse with the obverse legend abbreviated in this manner (and with a similar obverse found on the Hibernia farthing coinage as well), and the reverse is the only one with this legend and no ornamentation in the legend. Walter Breen called this a pattern or a prototype, but that does not appear to be correct as there are far more known than one would expect for a pattern and they generally come in well-circulated condition. Regardless, it remains a popular type coin, and a distinct Redbook-listed issue that does not show up with the frequency expected for an R-3 variety (and this had previously been listed as high as a Rarity-6). A clean and pleasing example……...$400

A Choice AU Rosa Americana Twopence [NGC AU53]
From the Eric Newman collection, with envelope

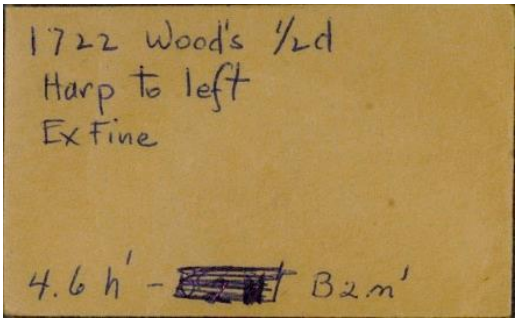


Lot 6. 1723 Rosa Americana Twopence. Martin 4.5-E.13. Rarity-5. About Uncirculated, in an NGC slab graded AU53. This is the ERIC P. NEWMAN example, and appeared as Lot 30342 in the May, 2014 sale of his collection by Heritage. It was described there as:

> **1723 2PENCE Rosa Americana Twopence AU53 NGC. Martin 4.5-E.13, W-1346, R.5.** There is no stop after either REX or the date. The central and peripheral design elements of this boldly defined piece, show typical incompleteness on approximately half of the dentils. Bright glimmers of yellow-gold luster cling to the peripheral obverse letters and to the outer edges of the portrait. The deep chestnut-brown fields and centers are smooth and unabraded on both sides.
> *Ex: Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society*

Accompanied by the original lot ticket from the auction, as well as Newman's annotated envelope. A lovely example of this type, with lovely original color and surfaces, and with a wonderful provenance. This would have been the largest size copper coin in circulation in colonial America, and a high proportion of the specimens extant today show significant wear, suggesting that they did see much use in commerce. A very pleasing example, likely without any actual circulation but just a little rub on the King's cheek from nearly three centuries of collector storage, with a couple hundred of those years in coin cabinets……..…..…….$1,600

A Lovely AU (NGC AU50) 1722 Hibernia Halfpenny
Harp to Left Type
From the Eric Newman collection, with envelope



Lot 7. 1722 Hibernia Halfpenny, Harp to Left. Martin 4.1-Bb.2. Rarity-3. About Uncirculated, in an NGC slab where this is graded AU50 BN, though perhaps a bit nicer than that overall. This is the ERIC P. NEWMAN specimen which appeared as Lot 30353 in the May, 2014 sale of his collection by Heritage, where it was described as follows:

> **1722 1/2P Hibernia Halfpenny, Type One, Harp Left AU50 NGC. M. 4.1-Bb.2, W-12690, R.3.** As a date, the Harp Left type of William Wood's 1722 Hibernia halfpenny is rarely seen in Mint State, and pleasing AU pieces are nearly as elusive. Five chief varieties are known, differentiated by the number of harp strings present. Martin describes six minor varieties for the eight strings variant, of which 4.1-Bb.2 is one of the more plentiful, and is often seen in type specialists' cabinets. This representative exhibits strong detail, particularly on the obverse, with smooth, problem-free surfaces and even olive-brown patina overall. *Ex: Richard Picker; Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society.*

Light rub on the high points as expected, but free of any major marks, abrasions or damage, and we think a 53 grade more appropriate, especially with the lovely color. This first type with the harp to left is seldom found in higher grades and it seems most spent quite some time in circulation. Accompanied by the original lot ticket from the Newman sale, TWO different Newman envelopes (only one pictured above, this one likely made in the 1960s when Bob Vlack was researching die varieties of the Hibernia coinage, a project that was completed but sadly never published; the attribution number on this envelope is Vlack's; a table in the rear of Syd Martin's work correlates the Vlack and Martin numbers), and a cotton liner bearing the name and address of Richard Picker, the first dealer to specialize in American colonial coins. A lovely example, especially with this outstanding provenance…..….$1,250

A Lovely AU Voce Populi Halfpenny
From the Ted Craige collection

Lot 8. 1760 Voce Populi Halfpenny. Nelson 9, Zelinka 6-C. About Uncirculated. This is the TED CRAIGE example of the variety, and appeared as Lot 6231 in the November, 2012 sale of his collection by Stack's-Bowers, where it was described as follows:

> **1760 Hibernia-Voce Populi Halfpenny. Zelinka 6-C, Nelson-9, W-13820. Rarity-3. AU-50.** 99.2 grains. Choice lustrous chocolate brown with frosty, smooth fields. Fairly nicely struck for the variety, with nearly complete denticles surrounding the obverse. Some very minor rim bruises are seen around the reverse. Craige noted this was "Choice for Type Coin," a fair statement about any Voce Populi with luster. Very attractive, ideal for a collector who only needs one nice Voce.

A very choice specimen in all respects and we suspect it would slab at a higher grade level than given in the Craige auction. There are no major marks from circulation and ample die finishing lines are visible in the obverse fields attesting to its high grade, and the surfaces are hard, without the roughness that is often found on this type (we have seen far less attractive Voce's slabbed as AU55 and even 58). Accompanied by the original lot ticket from the auction, as well as Craige's original handwritten envelope. A lovely example, with a great provenance……...$1,500

An Affordable, Cleanly Circulated Pitt Halfpenny

Lot 9. 1766 Pitt Halfpenny. Betts 519. Very Fine, well struck save for the extreme right edge of the reverse, an area that is often seen weak on this type; this causes a loss of the legend there, the remainder of the letters on either side mostly strong. The bust of Pitt and the ship are both sharp and show solid VF design detail. Nice medium brown, the surfaces hard and pleasing. A fascinating issue, one that is clearly important to the American colonial collector. Chris McDowell, editor of *The Journal of Early American Numismatics* is researching this issue and has uncovered much new information – if you do not subscribe to this publication you really need to (and this can be done at: http://numismatics.org/store/cnl/). Collectors of this historic issue are often faced with just two choices: paying a lot of money for an AU or Uncirculated specimen or finding a more affordable circulated one that is rough or damaged – this is the rare exception that is circulated, pleasing and still quite affordable. ……..…..… $950

A Higher Grade Nova Constellatio Copper

Lot 10. 1783 Nova Constellatio. Crosby 2-B, Pointed Rays type. Rarity-3 or so. Extremely Fine, a lovely, well-struck example of this popular issue. Bold legends on either side, the date strong. The small U.S at the center of the reverse is a trifle weaker than the rest but all there, and this detail is often found exceedingly weak. The stars, rays and all-seeing eye at the center of the obverse all bold. Glossy medium brown, the obverse with some russet toning around the rays and stars. A few trifling marks from circulation and a small dig at the I of CONSTELLATIO which has toned down to the surface color. The Nova Constellatios can be found in higher grades – though these will run into the four-figures in AU grade (and one of the nicest of this variety, graded MS66, brought over $40,000 at auction four years ago). VF and lower grade coins are more common, but they are usually seen quite rough or with post-strike damage from circulation. A solid EF, with good color and eye appeal is actually tougher to find than an AU or a rough VF! A pleasing, well-detailed coin for the collector……...…….$800

An Exceedingly Rare 1640 French Colonies Countermark on a Double Sol Parisis

Meant to circulate at 30 Deniers, a type unknown to Bob Vlack!

Lot 11. 1640 countermark on a 1550-A [Paris Mint] Henri II Double Sol Parisis or Gros de Six Blancs, Ciani 1301, Duplessy 994, Sombart 4456. Rarity-7 for the countermark on this host coin type Very Good to Fine, a fascinating example, the countermark struck on a one-year type coin (which itself was only struck at the Paris Mint). The host coin is twice the weight of the sol denomination, and a bit more than double the weight of the douzain types usually found as a host coin for the 1640 countermarks – and they were worth twice as much in circulation as a regular sol. The *fleur-de-lys* countermark on this issue raised its value from 30 Deniers (i.e. double the value of a Sol of 15 Deniers) to 36 Deniers. This larger denomination was completely unknown to Bob Vlack, as well as Walter Breen and other earlier North American researchers, even though countermarked examples of the Double Sol Parisis are also now known for Charles IX and Henri IIII as well. These are all are quite rare, and with only one date and mintmark known for the Henri II issues they are likely rarer still with the 1640 countermark. This would have been the largest billon coin in circulation in France or the French colonies in North America at the time – and since the colonies seldom saw silver or gold, it would perhaps have been the highest value coin in actual circulation in Canada (or even the British colonies since these were made a dozen years before the Massachusetts silver issues were first coined). A special piece, it's unique character unrecognized until fairly recently, and quite rare……..…….$450

An Inexpensive 1721-H 9 Deniers

Lot 12. 1721-H [La Rochelle Mint] French Colonies Copper Nine Deniers. Martin 3.7-B.14. Rarity-3. Fine to Very Fine, the color in the choice category, the surfaces more of average quality. Well struck, the legends full on either side, the tops of a few letters off the planchet at the upper right obverse, the remainder mostly strong, the date and mintmark all there. Lighter brown, the surfaces with a very light roughness that isn't bad at all for this issue, and just the minor marks expected from circulation. Syd Martin's book on the French Colonies issues clears up many misconceptions about this coinage and is the first time in the nearly 300 years these coins have been around that die varieties have been published. Circulated examples are often found dark and rough, this is pleasing for the grade, and an inexpensive example of the type…….$250

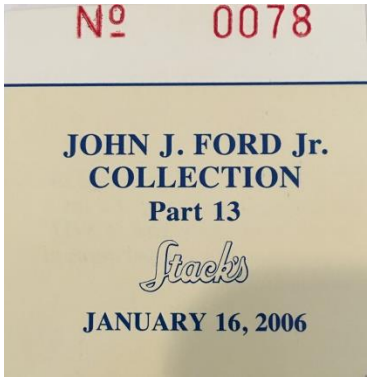
A Rarity-8 Sous Marques Variety, ex Vlack Collection – At $150!

Lot 13. 1739/8-A [Paris Mint] French Colonies Billon Sous Marques. Vlack 17a. Rarity-8. This is the BOB VLACK specimen of this extremely rare variety, sold by Stack's in January, 2008 where this coin was Lot 5082 and catalogued as:

> **1739/8-A Paris Mint. V17a. R-8.** Good/About Good. Medium gray color. Reverse quite worn loop of underlying 8 lies below and to the left of the 9 in date.

The grade is a little harsh, as were many in this sale, the obverse here of the Fine level, the reverse weakness at the center appears to be from die failure and not wear, and an overall grade of Very Good is more appropriate. Regardless this is an extremely rare variety, rated a full R-8 by Vlack in his book, and is seldom offered in any condition. The coin comes with Vlack's original distinct typed envelope as well as the lot ticket from the sale of his collection. This is the ONLY American colonial series where an R-8 variety can be purchased for well under two hundred bucks – though one wonders how long that will last!.....$150

A Choice EF Half Sous Marques – from the John Ford Collection



Lot 14. 1740-D [Lyon Mint] French Colonies Billon Half Sous Marques. Vlack 300. Rarity-1. This is the JOHN J. FORD, JR. example and appeared as Lot 78 in the Stack's January, 2006 sale of his collection where it was somewhat tersely described as: **"1740-D Lyon Mint. V.300.** Choice Extremely Fine. Deep silver gray in color on both sides. Just minor granularity." This piece is well struck, the obverse especially bold, with all the design detail crisp. The color is quite pleasing, and the surface quality is far nicer than normally found. The Half Sous Marques would have been the smallest sized coin in circulation, a bit smaller than either the Rosa Americana halfpenny or Hibernia farthings. We doubt that any of the Half Sous are actually Rarity-1's, though the 1740-D is certainly the most available – indeed Ford had six of them, but this was the nicest of the group. A choice example, with wonderful eye appeal and an exceptional provenance, accompanied by the original lot ticket from the Ford sale……...…….……....$300

An Affordable "African Head" Connecticut Copper

Lot 15. 1785 Connecticut Copper. Miller 4.1-F.4, the "African Head" variety. Rarity-1. Fine, some details slightly sharper, others a little weaker as struck, a typical occurrence with this popular contemporary counterfeit issue. The legends are mostly full, CON of CONNEC weaker than the rest, the date mostly gone as struck. The distinct obverse bust which gives the variety its nickname is well-struck, and this is generally the detail that collectors want to see the strongest; the seated figure on the reverse is also sharp, with a full branch in her hand. Dark fields with medium golden highlights, the surfaces with the usual light, but even roughness to them; a small planchet crack at the top edge was there before the piece was struck, and there are no excessive marks from circulation. While "only" an R-1 variety the vast majority seem to exist in lower grades and are quite rough, and the distinct type has always commanded a premium from collectors. An affordable example……...……...$250

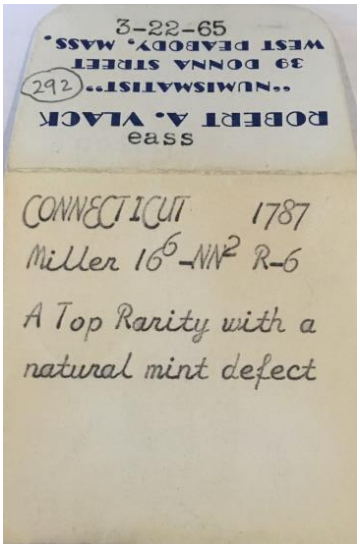
A Very Choice VF 1785 Connecticut Copper

Lot 16. 1785 Connecticut Copper. Miller 4.3-A.2. Rarity-3. Choice Very Fine, a rather boldly struck example of this first-year-of-issue coinage, and on a MUCH better planchet than normally found. Bold legends and a full date, the letters and numbers all razor sharp. The central details just slightly weaker than the peripheries, though everything is there for the grade, the obverse bust with some mailing, facial features and hair while the reverse figure shows much of the drapery and detail in the globe and shield. Very attractive medium chocolate brown, the surfaces are hard and quite pleasing, with just the bare minimum of light striations on either side. The specialist or advanced type collector will know how unusual this is, as the 1785 Connecs come on pretty bad planchet stock, often with heavy laminations or flaws – this was, after all, the first year these were made and the coiners had little or no experience in making planchets or striking coins. Any 1785 with a clean planchet and nice eye appeal is worth buying, and this one is priced at only……..……..$550

1786 Connecticut Miller 4.2-R, Rarity-6, ex Richard August

Lot 17. 1786 Connecticut Copper. Miller 4.2-R. Rarity-6. Fine overall, erratically struck as is always the case with this VERY RARE variety. The obverse legend is full save for the final letter, the reverse legend mostly visible though ETLIB is much weaker than the rest, the date mostly on the planchet. The branch is bold, and this is the one area that collectors want strong for a 1786 die since the leaf detail was added by hand and is unique to each reverse; having it strong makes attribution much easier. Medium brown, either side with some light laminations that do not detract, the surfaces hard enough otherwise, and with minimal marks from circulation. Originally called Low R-7, with Michael Hodder having seen only 9 examples when he wrote the Perkins auction catalogue, the rating was revised downwards by the late Robert Martin who noted 21 pieces in his own database, including this specimen. Still quite rare, and seldom seen in grades better than Fine (and most far worse). This is the RICHARD AUGUST specimen and was in his collection for several decades before he was able to upgrade it a few years ago. A find for the specialist, at a lot less money than these have sold for in the past!.....$500

The Rare Miller 16.6-NN.2, ex Robert Vlack
With a very cool planchet flaw!



Lot 18. 1787 Connecticut Copper. Miller 16.6-NN.2. Low Rarity-6. Nearly Very Fine, probably fully of the grade in terms of wear, the strike a trifle weak as often found on the Draped Bust Left issues with large letters. The legends are full, the letters mostly bold, and the date all on the planchet, though a bit weaker than the letters. The obverse design shows some of the drapery detail, though flat on the hair, while the reverse has a bold, full branch which always aids in attribution. Lighter brown, the surfaces decent for a circulated issue. There is a wonderful double planchet flaw that goes through the coin – two natural holes, the top perfectly centered at the eye of the bust. While planchet flaws are common enough on the state coinages, ones that form natural holes are unusual and quite striking in appearance. This example was from the collection of BOB VLACK, and comes with his distinct typewritten envelope. It was purchased by Phillip W. Keller in 1965 and remained in his collection for nearly a half century, with his penciled notes on the back of the envelope. Bob Vlack called this a "top rarity" on that envelope, and while its absolute rating has fallen slightly in recent years, it still remains a very difficult issue to find in any grade – tellingly it was missing from the frontline John Ford sale in 2005. This is a charming example, with a wonderful provenance……..……..$275

A GORGEOUS Miller 18-g.1, Choice About Uncirculated
Ex Steve Tannenbaum Collection

Lot 19. 1787 Connecticut Copper. Miller 18-g.1. Rarity-6. Choice About Uncirculated. This is the STEVE TANNENBAUM specimen of the variety and appeared as Lot 7173 in the Stack's Bowers sale of his collection in January, 2012, where it was described as follows:

> **1787 Connecticut Copper. Miller 18-g.1, W-3045. Rarity-6. Draped Bust Facing Left. EF-45.** 130.1 grains. Deep golden brown with traces of red in the protected areas though no doubt from a long-ago cleaning. Sharpness easily equal to the task of the assigned grade and readily comparable to Perkins:290 and Ford:313. Usual swelling in left obverse field, some central ticks from the striking process at the center and a light natural fissure along the hair ribbon, reverse with numerous tiny central ticks as well. Nicely centered and highly attractive, and perhaps at the low end of the Condition Census for the variety.

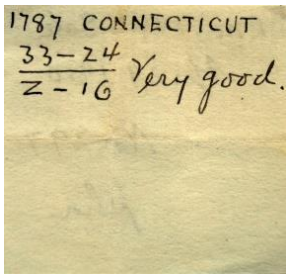
We disagree slightly with the cataloguer of that sale in terms of grade – to our eyes the light red in the protected areas is completely natural, and the coin is a full AU in grade; bidders in the audience certainly agreed, as the piece realized $1,150 over a half dozen years ago, which was fair AU money at the time. Steve considered it to be the second finest known of the variety, and indeed we have not seen anything better than this at auction; the closest was the Hessberg coin, an AU with a large planchet flaw. Ford's was a Choice VF but still called the second finest seen by its cataloguer – though this example is much nicer in every respect. This is one of the handful of Connecticut Copper varieties that proved to be much rarer than previously thought and its rarity rating has gone up over the years while most others have drifted at least slightly downwards. This example has the typical late obverse die state, the swelling no doubt accounting for the rarity of the variety today. This obverse was paired only with this reverse, so it seems both dies must have failed around the same time. A gorgeous example of a rare variety, with an exceptional provenance (accompanied by Steve's original handwritten envelope and the lot ticket from the auction of his collection). This one will not easily be improved upon……....…$2,250

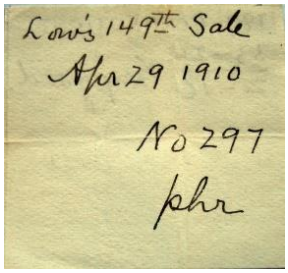
The Very Rare Miller 33.12-Z.24
Ex Mike Ringo, Steve Tannenbaum

Lot 20. 1787 Connecticut Copper. Miller 33.12-Z.24. High Rarity-6. Very Fine in terms of strike and wear, surface quality average for the variety. An extremely rare variety, and one that is nearly impossible to find in nice grades – indeed, only two are appreciably nicer than this, the Uncirculated EAC '75 coin which was from the Stepney Hoard and later in the Taylor collection and the second Taylor coin which was VF/EF. The remainder of the pieces known seem to cluster around Fine or lower grades, most with significant surface roughness, including the VG/Fine Ford coin. The present example is sharper than nearly all we have seen other than the two Taylor pieces mentioned above, and the example on our last price list. The legends are bold on either side, the first digit of the date weak but the rest there, and with sharp design detail on either side, save for the forehead on the obverse bust. Medium brown with darker fields, few actual marks from circulation. This example is from the STEVE TANNENBAUM collection, who bought it from Mike Ringo when it was still an R-7 variety; he considered it the fourth finest known at the time and it will likely rank in the Condition Census still today. The coin did not appear in the sale of his collection and was one of a handful of pieces found later and sold privately; it comes with Steve's distinct handwritten envelope which lists provenance and other information. A coin the specialist would do well to consider – it will prove nearly impossible to upgrade!.....$700

The September, 1965 issue of The Colonial Newsletter (whole number 15) has a very useful article by Edward Barnseley on the 1787 Connecticut coppers with the Z reverses (currently 26 different dies). The article includes a single-page plate showing the different branches for all but one of the dies then known. The branch area usually strikes up well and will still show detail even when well-worn, which makes it an easy area to use for attribution; since the leaves were all added to the dies by hand each is distinct and this plate is the easiest way to attribute a Z reverse – though it was done so long ago that most collectors overlook it today.

The Popular "Snipe Nose" Variety in Choice EF
From the Hillyer Ryder Collection – with original ticket!





Lot 21. 1787 Connecticut Copper. Miller 33.28-Z.16, the "Snipe Nose" obverse. High Rarity-4. Extremely Fine, a boldly struck example of this very scarce and popular variety. The legends are full, the individual letters all strong, as are the digits in the date which is, unusually, completely on the planchet. The obverse bust shows all the fine detail in the drapery, significant hair design and a prominent eye, while the reverse figure shows most of the folds in her dress and a strong globe, shield and branch – even the centers of the cinquefoils on either side show the intricate design detail at their centers which quickly gets worn away. Dark olive brown, the surfaces with the faintest roughness, but with significant eye appeal – especially since there are no major marks or damage from circulation. Usual late obverse state with a horizontal diebreak nearly bisecting the die and extending out under the bust's nose, giving the nickname for this variety. This is the HILLYER RYDER coin, and is accompanied by his original handwritten ticket – the 33.24 designation was Dr. Hall's (who published a limited edition of a book on the 1787 Connecticut coppers). It was purchased by Ryder in 1910, nearly a decade before Henry Miller's work would be published, which renumbered some of the 33-obverse die varieties and added in varieties not known to Dr. Hall. Most of the Ryder coins ended up in the collection of John Ford, who sold some downgrades and duplicates in a handful of auctions by Stack's and Bowers and Merena, mostly in the 1990s. Ford never looked at his Connecs much, but he was a serious enough numismatist to retain all the paper ephemera that came with his coins – unfortunately some of this material has since been lost as coins were slabbed or resold. Certainly one of the sharpest examples of the variety known, likely in the tail end of the Condition Census as well……...……....$750

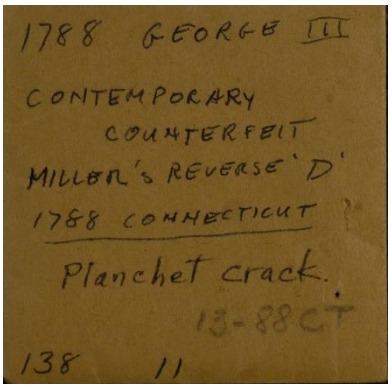
A Choice About Uncirculated Miller 33.29-gg.1
A Condition Census Example

Lot 22. 1787 Connecticut Copper. Miller 33.29-gg.1. Rarity-5. Choice About Uncirculated, a wonderful example of this very scarce variety, and certainly high in the Condition Census. Struck from the usual advanced state of both dies, the obverse showing massive failure at the left, with die swelling at the TO of AUCTORI and at the base of the bust, while the reverse die has similar swelling at the upper rim above the E of INDE and the cinquefoil behind the seated figure's head, as well as a large break from the D through the branch stem and myriad other small breaks. Despite these late states of the dies the coin is remarkably well struck, the legends full on either side (the TO of AUCTORI weaker because of the swelling but visible), the date bold and all on the planchet. The obverse bust shows deep detail in the eye, face, drapery and hair while the seated figure on the reverse shows strong drapery and shield detail, as well as a bold branch; the interiors of the cinquefoils not affected by the die swelling show their minute design, this detail quickly worn down. Pleasing medium brown with some subtle darker toning, both sides glossy and free of any appreciable marks from circulation. Coins like this were often severely undergraded in the past because the damage to the dies was confused with wear – though even a full red specimen right off the press would not show any more detail than this! That has changed as collectors learned to look at color and surfaces along with strike to formulate an accurate grade. The only one we've seen appreciably nicer is the Uncirculated Oecshner specimen; when cataloguing the Perkin's coin Michael Hodder noted that the Condition Census dropped down to VF after that specimen, and though a few EF's have since appeared, a Choice AU will certainly rank high in that listing. A lovely coin in every respect……...……$1,400

The Rare and Popular 1788 Miller 1-I/Vermont Ryder 39
Muling a Connecticut obverse and a Vermont reverse!
Likely the LAST Connecticut copper variety coined!

Lot 23. 1788 Connecticut Copper. Miller 1-I. the ever popular Connecticut/Vermont Mule (this variety also known as 1788 Vermont Copper, Ryder 39). Rarity-6. Very Good/Good, the reverse always weaker than the obverse on this variety, here the die is nearly completely shot. The obverse has traces of AUCTORI and most of CONNEC sharp, the distinct Small Head bust completely outlined and showing some finer detail in the mailing. The reverse shows traces of the design and legends, and that is all. Struck on the small, somewhat dumpy looking planchet stock that all of this variety comes on – this one weighs just 87.7 grains, a little more than half the authorized weight for the series! With this light planchet stock and late die states it has been argued that Miller 1-I was the last Connecticut copper variety struck, likely in 1789, right before the Coppers Panic made them essentially worthless – at which point the few coiners still in business closed up shop. In cataloguing the George Perkins specimen, Michael Hodder noted that he had seen 26 examples, while Robert Martin added 8 additional ones, bringing the number then known to 34. However, absolute rarity and price do not exactly go hand-in-hand. Many collectors own more than one example of the variety since it fits into three different series – Connecticut, Vermont and "Machin's Mills" specialists all need an example of the variety, and some want one for each collection! That demand has stretched the supply quite thin, and the variety has always commanded a premium over coins of equal rarity because of that. The few specimens known in VF grades will bring five-figures at auction – and none are known better than high-end VF. That cost prices out a lot of collectors who wish to own the variety, and we are pleased to offer a more affordable example that will certainly fill a difficult hole in any collection of Connecs or Vermonts……...…….$1,750

The Rare 1788 Miller 101-D
Muling a Machin's Mills Halfpenny Obverse
and a Connecticut Copper Reverse
the Eric Newman coin, with original envelope
ex Richard Picker



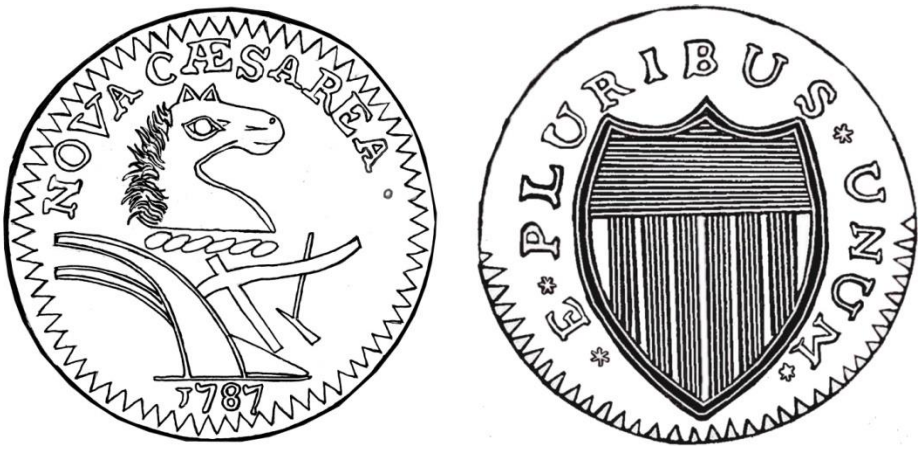
Lot 24. 1788 Connecticut Copper. Miller 101-D, the rare and popular Machin's Mills/Connecticut Copper Mule, also known as Machin's Mills variety Vlack 13-88CT. High Rarity-5. Very Fine or slightly better, though in an NGC slab where this is undergraded as Fine 12, presumably because the graders were not familiar with the late die state. This is the ERIC P. NEWMAN specimen of this rare and popular variety, and appeared as Lot 30149 in the May, 2014 sale of his collection where it was catalogued as follows:

> **1788 COPPER Connecticut Copper, Mailed Bust Right GEORGIVS III Fine 12 NGC. M. 101-D, Vlack 13-88CT, R.5.** 125.0 grains. Prominent obverse bulges and advanced reverse die failure are the hallmarks of this late die state Machin's Mills piece. Sharp details appear at the right reverse border, outside the crack and bulge that obliterates most of LIB. The smooth surfaces combine medium brown color with blue-steel patina. The planchet is cracked at the location of the lower obverse die bulge.
> *Ex: Richard Picker; Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society.*

The coin is certainly sharper than the Fine grade, the areas of weakness caused by die failure and not wear – note the sharp detail on the obverse bust, especially the hair, face and mailing, while the reverse has significant drapery detail and a strong shield and branch. Like the 1788 Miller 1-I offered in the previous lot, this variety was likely made in 1789 right before the Coppers Panic, cobbling together any usable dies to pound out a few more coins. Neither of these dies was likely usable for long though, each side showing massive breaks and bulges. Many of those known are dark and rough, and the color and overall eye appeal of this example are choice indeed – and the provenance to one of the most famous collections ever formed doesn't hurt! Accompanied by the original lot ticket from the Newman auction, and the original envelope, which is from dealer Richard Picker – the first to specialize in American colonial coinage – with his name and address printed on the back flap. Quite lovely…….$1,500

A Very Sharp Maris 6-D, in a Late Die State

Lot 25. 1787 New Jersey Copper. Maris 6-D. Rarity-1. Choice Very Fine, a lovely and well-struck example of this popular variety, with some details approaching the full EF grade. The legends are full, the individual letters all bold; the date is weaker as usual, though only the 8 is not visible. Strong design details on either side, the horse showing a bold eye and nostril, the distinct M-shaped ears sharp, and the plow below bold. The reverse is similarly strong, the wide shield showing all of the horizontal and vertical stripes within. Struck from a late state of both dies, the obverse with a half-dozen small die breaks in and around the plow handles, the reverse with a large break and cud at the base of the shield, extending in both directions. Chestnut brown, the surfaces mostly hard to the eye, with very few marks from actual circulation, and quite choice as such. While this variety normally strikes up well, it is often found on dark and rougher planchet stock – or with post-strike damage. While common enough as a variety it is decidedly scarce in higher grades, and with great eye appeal. This example would make for a perfect example of the variety or type……..……..……...$750



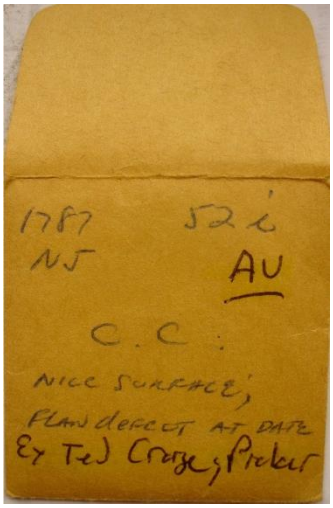
Maris 17-b on a very small planchet, late obverse die state

Lot 26. 1786 New Jersey Copper. Maris 17-b, Small Planchet Subtype. Rarity-4. Very Fine, somewhat crudely struck on a smaller, thicker planchet measuring just 25mm in diameter (!). Full, mostly bold legends on either side, the date weaker but partially visible. The horse is fully outlined, with some finer detail in its mane and face, the plow below sharp, the reverse shield strong, showing nearly all of the horizontal and vertical lines within. Late obverse state with clear diebreaks and failure in the right obverse field. Medium-to-darker brown, the surfaces mostly hard and with just light marks from circulation. The Lorenzo example on this small planchet stock was graded AG and managed a bid of $575 to a noted dealer who considered it to be a contemporary cast – this is the same size, from roughly the same state of the dies (though the low grade of that specimen makes it hard to compare), but it is definitely struck. A pretty example, especially with the nice color and strong detail – and with an AG bringing $575, this one, many grades higher, is a bargain at a lot less money. A really neat New Jersey, with a lot of mystery still to be unraveled……...……..$350

The Very Rare Maris 42-c

Lot 27. 1787 New Jersey Copper. Maris 42-c. High Rarity-5. Fine overall, the obverse a bit sharper, the reverse a bit weaker, a typical occurrence on this RARE variety. The obverse legend is full, the letters bold, and the date strong and fully on the planchet. Typical late state of the obverse die with distinct swelling at the horse's neck. The reverse is equally strongly as can be seen by the multitude of lines visible within the shield, but the surfaces are a little rough at the upper right, weakening a few letters though the only one lost is the N of UNUM. The obverse surface is hard to the eye with the expected light circulation marks. The variety is usually found on dark and rough planchet stock, and this is better than most that we have seen. The obverse of this is equivalent to the Steve Tannenbaum coin, though that one had a nicer reverse – and brought nearly $5,000 when it was sold in January, 2012 (https://auctions.stacksbowers.com/lots/view/3-2ANM6). This one is a LOT less money……...….$950

An About Uncirculated Maris 52-i
From the Ted Craige collection



Lot 28. 1787 New Jersey Copper. Maris 52-i. Rarity-3. About Uncirculated. This is the TED CRAIGE example of the variety, and appeared as Lot 11375 in the January, 2013 Stack's Bowers auction of his collection. It was plated and described there as follows:

> **1787 New Jersey Copper. Maris 52-i, W-5280. Rarity-3. Outlined Shield. AU-50.** 132.5 grains. Glossy chocolate brown with strong peripheral luster, particularly on the reverse. An area of ruddy tan coloration is present at central plow and date, while the reverse shows some vertical bands of darker color and an area of frosty olive around UNUM. Rim crude at right half of date, affecting second U of PLURIBUS. Boldly struck and little worn, just a tiny bit soft at central shield. The obverse is trivially aligned to 4 o'clock, just enough to show the die edge and the genesis of the rim break above V of NOVA; studying the rim crumbling under a glass is instructive. The reverse is aligned to 2 o'clock. The SHI Condition Census of seven pieces includes a single AU- coin at top, the Maris-Garrett coin, followed by a half dozen EF listings that may represent five coins or six coins. This piece's sharpness is similar to most of them, but its obvious luster vaults it into the low AU echelon. Of course, its rim flaw may affect its placement in favor of a piece with a more complete planchet, but its visual appeal is excellent overall. Needless to say, this is a specimen that would prove well-nigh impossible to upgrade. Mr. Craige called it "C.C., nice surface; flan defect at date."
> *Provenance: From the Ted L. Craige Collection. Paper envelope with attribution notation included.*

A really pleasing specimen of a variety that is hard to find in better grade. We agree with the cataloguer of the Craige sale in all respects – the coin is definitely an AU, the rim flaw was there on the planchet before it was struck and thus not as disturbing as it would be if post-strike, though it does obviously affect the value of the piece. One of the EF's mentioned above sold in the same firms November, 2017 C4 sale and realized $4,230. Accompanied by the original lot ticket from the Craige sale, his annotated envelope and a cotton liner with Richard Picker's name and address stamped upon it. A great coin for the specialist, at a truly bargain price level……...……$950

A Maris 56-n Camel Head, overstruck on a Vermont Copper

Lot 29. 1787 New Jersey Copper. Maris 56-n, the "Camel Head" variety, struck over a VERMONT COPPER. Rarity-1 for the variety, Rarity-6 with this undertype. Very Fine in terms of strike and wear, the overstriking causing some loss of legend: NOVA on the reverse is mostly gone, and much of AUCTORI from the host coin is visible over portions of E PLU on the reverse. Strong New Jersey design detail on either side, just traces of the Vermont design visible with a glass and patience. Medium brown, the coin showing some planchet flaws that were on the Vermont before striking, but also some marks from circulation, including some ancient scratches on either side. While this is one of the most common of all New Jersey coppers the variety comes over a bewildering assortment of host coins, and a Vermont copper host is a scarce one indeed (as expected, most are over counterfeit British or Irish coppers and Connecticut coins). Not bad at all, especially with the sharp detail……..…..….$275

A Pleasing Middle Grade 1787 Massachusetts Half Cent

Lot 30. 1787 Massachusetts Half Cent. Ryder 5-A. Rarity-3. Nearly Very Fine, a well-struck and cleanly worn example of this popular HALF CENT type – Massachusetts being the only state to issue a coin in this denomination, though they were smaller and lighter than regal British halfpence of the time. The peripheral legends are bold on either side, as is the date at the base of the reverse; the denomination on the shield characteristically worn smooth. The design motifs are strong, the standing Indian showing some folds in his tunic, the eagle with nearly all the feathers in its wings sharp. A tiny planchet clip at the upper right obverse touches nothing and just makes the planchet slightly out of round. Lovely medium brown, the surfaces hard, pleasing and with no real marks or damage from circulation, making for a lovely type coin. Pretty much perfect for the grade……...…….$450

An Affordable Example of a High Rarity-6 Massachusetts Cent
Missing from the Taylor and Norweb collections!

Lot 31. 1788 Massachusetts Cent. Ryder 12-K. High Rarity-6. Fine overall, design detail of the EF grade level, the surfaces evenly rough from time spent underground, which softens the legends on either side – most of the letters and date numerals are visible, though occasionally weak, while CENT is bold on the shield. Strong design detail on either side, including all the pleats in the Indian's tunic and most of the feathers in the wings, and attribution is easy and certain. An extremely rare variety, one that is seldom offered in any grade indeed, we have owned but one example of the variety in the last two decades, and that was in lower technical grade than this. Rare enough as a variety that it was missing completely from the Taylor and Norweb collections, both known for the depth of their holdings. Ford, Partrick and Newman had one – and we mean one: the same example, ex Hillyer Ryder and F.C.C. Boyd, graced all three collections (and it was a lovely specimen, by far the finest known). But when a variety is missing from great collections or a single coin shared, it is a telling commentary indeed (the second Ford coin was actually misattributed and was the common Ryder 10-L). This is not the most attractive Mass cent out there, but it is something that one seldom sees, an affordable rarity……..……$750

The Very Rare Vermont Landscape Ryder-3
The rarest collectible Landscape variety

Lot 32. 1785 Vermont Landscape Copper, the second VERMONTS obverse. Ryder-3. Rarity-5. Very Fine, the strike better than often seen on the variety, though with areas of weakness as nearly always found. The obverse is weak at VERM, the reverse at DECIMA, the remainder of the legend bold, as is the 1785 date below. The iconic design of the Green Mountains is strong at the viewer's left, a bit weaker at the right, the plow below sharp. The stars and rays design on the reverse mostly strong save for the area under DECIMA. The coin is a pleasing deep tan color, the surfaces with light roughness to them, but with no major marks from circulation. This piece may have been lost and spent some time underground while fairly high grade, but if so the surfaces escaped getting either dark or too very rough. This is, by far, the rarest of the collectible Landscape varieties (the contemporary counterfeit Ryder 5 in both struck and cast issues are so rare as to be uncollectible), and it is seldom found anywhere near choice. Indeed, Tony Carlotto noted in his reference on the Vermont series that for a Ryder 3 "the chances of having the luxury to be picky are slim." The publication of Q. David Bowers' recent book on Vermont coppers has certainly added interest to this fascinating series – a compact 39 varieties, ranging from common to exceedingly rare and with a great diversity of design types and both authorized and counterfeit issues. This one is nearly as attractive as the Scherff coin we sold on our last price list (at $2,999), though priced at significantly less money (we note that the Bowers book gives selected auction prices for all varieties, and this one is also priced at almost half of what the VG-8 in the 2006 C4 auction realized!)……..……..…….$1,250

A Choice VF, Well Detailed Ryder-9 "Baby Head" Vermont Copper
Showing all four sheaves of wheat on the reverse shield!

Enlarged shield detail, showing all four images

Lot 33. 1786 Vermont Copper. Ryder 9, the "Baby Head" variety. Rarity-3. Choice Very Fine, a really good grade level for this popular, naked-eye variety. About as boldly struck as one can expect, the legends are full on either side – AUCTORI visible but weaker, the rest of the legend bold, the date sharp and nearly all on the planchet. The iconic large, rounded obverse bust is fully outlined and shows significant design detail in the hair, face and mailing. The distinct reverse figure with head scrunched down and wearing shoulder pads a Hollywood starlet of the 1930s would have killed for is also bold, with ample design in her dress. All four of the tiny images on the shield are also visible – these have been called both sheaves of wheat and castle towers in the past, but since early America is not known for its castles, wheat sheaves are likely correct. Bowers notes that "the sheaves range from missing to lightly struck on examples seen" so this one is far sharper than most. The planchet shows light roughness, but is free from all but the most minor of striations – quite rare for this variety, and Carlotto specifically notes that "if the opportunity arises to purchase a specimen with a minimum of planchet flaws, buy it!" Nice lighter brown with some mottled darker hue, and actually one of the more attractive Baby Head varieties we have seen in some time. Purchased many years ago from New England Rarities, in the original flip where this was graded VF-30, which we agree with. The type collector or Vermont specialist would do well to consider this as it will prove very difficult to markedly improve upon!.....$1,750

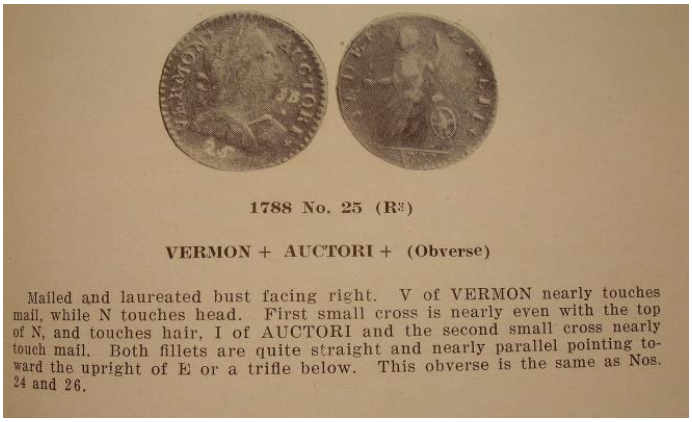
A Choice EF Ryder-13 "Britannia" Variety
A Condition Census Example
with a STRONG reverse, including full BRITANNIA and date!

Lot 34. 1787 Vermont Copper. Ryder-13, the BRITANNIA variety. Rarity-1. Choice Extremely Fine. This example appeared on our First Price List way back in 1989 where it was given this same grade by the late Jack Collins, a notoriously conservative "old school" grader. It was later in the first C4 sale held by Stack's Bowers in November, 2012 (a sale that lasted until well after 3 a.m.!) where it appeared as Lot 6640 and was ably catalogued there as follows:

> **1787 Vermont Copper. RR-13, Bressett 17-V, W-2255. Rarity-1. BRITANNIA. EF-40/EF-40.** 110.9 grains. Deep golden-tan surfaces reveal some minimal roughness, as struck, though no detracting surface blemishes greet the unaided eye. From an early state of the dies, the obverse with just a tiny cud at the tip of the bust, no signs of the bisecting crack that later crosses the effigy, minor rim clip at 11 o'clock, evenly centered with much of the dentils present, design elements all bold, reverse from an early and seldom-encountered state with bold central details with all of BRITANNIA visible though weak in places, and with date details a sharp as ever seen for the variety, the rim clip manifests itself at 7 o'clock, a spot of rouge-red is noted at the first A and the branch immediately adjoining, no marks of consequence are noted. Probably *a **Condition Census*** example of the variety -- it sure beats nearly all of the Ryder-13s seen by the present writer for surface quality and boldness of strike. Ryder-13 is a muling of a new-style Vermont obverse with a much-used Machin's Mills reverse die for counterfeit halfpennies that was coupled with numerous obverse dies before coming to rest in the Vermont copper series. Undeniably choice for the grade both physically and aesthetically and absolutely worthy of serious bidding competition.

We disagree only slightly with the grade in this sale, the coin is remarkably choice in every respect and surely deserving of the full Choice EF grade (i.e. EF45), At least one previous owner considered it a full AU, and it compares favorably with the few AU's that have appeared at auction (which are listed in the new Bowers book). What makes the coin special is the remarkably sharp reverse detail, with nearly the full legend and half of the date visible, detail which is never seen – indeed, most collectors are happy to find an example of Ryder 13 with just a trace of a letter or two on the reverse! From an early state of the obverse die, the cud at the lower rim just starting to form. The Bowers book errs in saying "the reverse is always weak due to the shallow relief of the die," as here the design detail is quite bold – the die was likely lapped to remove damage sometime after the obverse cud formed. A really special example of this notorious Machin's Mills issue (it uses Machin's reverse 87C), and about as nice as can be found, with significant eye appeal for a variety that is tough to find choice…….$2,500

The Richardson PLATE COIN for Ryder-25
ex New Jersey Historical Society, American Numismatic Society
A piece of history!



1788 No. 25 (R³)

VERMON + AUCTORI + (Obverse)

Mailed and laureated bust facing right. V of VERMON nearly touches mail, while N touches head. First small cross is nearly even with the top of N, and touches hair, I of AUCTORI and the second small cross nearly touch mail. Both fillets are quite straight and nearly parallel pointing toward the upright of E or a trifle below. This obverse is the same as Nos. 24 and 26.

Lot 35. 1788 Vermont Copper. Ryder 25. Rarity-3. Extremely Fine. This piece has an amazing provenance, and was the PLATE COIN FOR THE VARIETY in the John Richardson work on Vermont coppers (first published in the May, 1947 issue of *The Numismatist*, and then as an offprint). This coin last appeared at auction in Superior Galleries September, 2004 sale as Lot 1520, where it was described as follows:

> **1788 VT Copper, Bust Facing Right, Ryder-25.** Extremely Fine. 141.9 grains. A pleasing example, having somewhat reflective surfaces, showing overall light wear. Several old pinscratches on the center of both sides. A very nicely detailed coin for the variety, that was struck from shallow dies to begin with. The importance of this particular coin stems from its appearance as the Plate Coin in the Richardson monograph on Vermont Coppers. This piece was once part of the New Jersey Historical Society collection and was donated to the American Numismatic Society in 1937. In 1984 the coin was deaccessioned and sold by Mid-American Rare Coin Auctions, Inc. to Dana Linett who then sold it in Early American Numismatics Mail Bid Sale of July 17, 1984 (lot 366). The front of the coin has two very early collector's attributions in white ink: "25" below the bust (for the variety) and "3B"to the right of the chin (presumably someone's designations for the obverse and reverse designations). While this piece approaches the Condition Census, some details are better than on some coins that have been assigned a higher grade. A quality coin that drips with history.

We note that the coin is even more historical than the cataloguer above realized – the "3B" painted on the obverse is actually the number given to the type by Sylvester Crosby in his 1875 work and must have been inked onto the coin prior to 1919 when the Hillyer Ryder monograph on Vermont coppers was first published – and more likely at some time in the 1880s when colonial coins enjoyed a resurgence of popularity after the Crosby book was issued. This is one of those coins that really has it all – choice condition, nice eye appeal, a fantastic provenance, and the plate coin in a major reference work. It is accompanied by the lot ticket and catalogue description from the Superior auction; if your library does not include the Richardson reference we will throw one of those into the purchase because they really do belong together. A special coin!.....$1,750

PCGS XF40 Nova Eborac Copper, Reverse Figure to Left

Lot 36. 1787 Nova Eborac Copper, Reverse Figure Facing Left. Extremely Fine, in a PCGS slab where this is graded XF40. A well struck example of this popular issue, the legends full on either side, the individual letters mostly bold, as is the date. Excellent design detail, as expected for the grade. The obverse bust shows pretty much all the detail that was in the die, with strong face and mailing and especially sharp hair, the latter distinct in that it all flows from a spot at the rear of the head, the ultimate colonial comb-over. The reverse is similarly sharp, the seated figure with her head a bit weak, but the detail in the dress all bold and the curiously shaped shield showing some of the design of the New York seal on its face. Medium brown, the surfaces with a few scattered striae at the upper reverse and a touch of minor roughness at the left obverse, neither enough to prevent the piece from slabbing at the full EF level, a grade we agree with. While we personally don't care for slabs, for some collectors they provide peace of mind for authenticity and grade, and when we get them and feel the grades are correct we are happy to pass them on (and just as happy to crack them out of the slab if the buyer so requests!). A perfect example for the type, a very minor upgrade from EF to AU will more than triple the price……..…….……..$900

The Very Rare 1787 Large Head Nova Eborac
A nice VG/Fine at under $1,000!

Lot 37. 1787 Nova Eborac, Large Head Variety, Breen 985. Rarity-6, likely high in that rating. Very Good to Fine in terms of wear, the obverse struck from the usual bulged and late state of the die, with some detail there appearing no better than Good. The obverse has most of the legend visible, NOVA weak but there, the EB of EBORAC very faint from die failure but partially visible; the bust has strong detail at the mailing and in the wreath in the hair, but the face is weakened by the prominent die bulge in the field – no doubt this happened early in the dies life and accounts for the rarity of the variety today. The reverse is sharper, the T of ET and L of LIB weak, the rest of the legend strong, the unusual ornamentation before and after the legend sharp, the date particularly bold. The seated female figure is weak at her head, the rest outlined and with the lower dress and shield showing some design detail. Medium brown, smooth and even wear, no appreciable marks or damage which is nice for a well-used coin. This is the very rare Large Head type, the second rarest of the four Nova Eborac varieties (the Small Head type being an extreme rarity), and it often comes dark or very rough planchets. The variety can be found in VF grades, but those generally sell for $3-6,000 when offered, depending on how nice the planchet is (and if you like the nicest, there is an Unc of the variety known, ex Partrick and Norweb that brought $30,000 when last sold). This is an affordable example of a very rare issue, a perfect piece for the collector on a budget…….……..…$950

The Very Rare 1774 Machin's Mills, Vlack 7-74A
The only obverse die with GEORGIUS instead of GEORGIVS
One of the finest known
ex Richard August collection

Lot 38. 1774 Machin's Mills Halfpenny. Vlack 7-74A, U instead of V in obverse legend. Rarity-6. Choice Very Fine, nearly a full Extremely Fine, a beautiful specimen of a very rare variety and distinct type coin, one of just two to have the obverse legend read GEORGIUS instead of GEORGIVS (the other, sharing this same obverse die, is the 1772-dated Vlack 7-72A, but die states show the 1774-dated piece was struck first). Boldly struck, the legends razor sharp, the date strong. The obverse design detail very nearly warrants the EF grade, with almost full armor and facial features, the hair strong with only the laurel wreath a bit flat as struck. The reverse is, as always, a little softer at the exact center, but the seated figure is as bold as any we have seen. What sets the coin apart is the lovely color – a pleasing light tan, with a small toning spot at the center of the obverse bust and a smaller one below the chin. The surfaces are hard, quite unusual for the variety (compare with the Whitman *Encyclopedia* plate coin which was similarly sharp but rough – and was the nicest one they could find to illustrate the variety). There are a few light marks from circulation, and one ancient scratch on the obverse from the nose to the jaw, this toned down and not as noticeable. The Whitman *Encyclopedia* lists the Condition Census for the variety as VF20 to VF30 – this exact coin was the one there called 30. This example is from the Richard August collection (a conservative grader, he called it VF-XF, which we cannot argue with), and was his frontline collection coin for several decades before it was recently upgraded. A RARE variety in any grade, and one that usually sells for strong money given the naked-eye obverse type with the U in legend (compare with the rough Fine that brought $1,610 in a Stack's sale a dozen years ago: https://archive.stacksbowers.com/?q=5dbf45b7-574c-4664-99d0-c9d359c59763). Neither the Stack's Bowers or Heritage auction archives show anything approaching this coin, the nicest on those sites being a rough VF (though, interestingly, one rough VF is known struck over a 1785 Confederatio copper). A first-rate example of this rarity, with an outstanding provenance and likely to be the nicest the collector can hope to find at this time. Accompanied by August's distinct handwritten envelope……...…….$3,000

The Magic 1776 Date
Vlack 6-76A Machin's Mills Halfpenny in Choice VF Condition

Lot 39. 1776 Machin's Mills Halfpenny. Vlack 6-76A. Rarity-4. Choice Very Fine, a charming example of this ever-popular issue, one of just a handful of American coins to bear the magic 1776 date (even if it is likely that none of the coins with that date were actually struck in that pivotal year). This is a bold example, the legends full with the individual letters all sharp, the all-important date bold, fully on the planchet, and with a full row of denticles framing it below. The design detail is quite strong for this "tall head" obverse, the dies were both deeply cut and that meant that there was never enough metal available to flow to the deepest part of either die – so the wreath on the obverse bust is never seen fully brought up, and there is usually weakness at the center of the reverse. The present example is better than most we have seen, the obverse bust showing strong mailing and some face and hair detail, the reverse figure with some drapery detail and bold shield and branch as well. Lovely medium olive with lighter devices, the surfaces hard to the eye and with the bare minimum of marks from circulation. There is a small planchet clip at the base of the obverse which touches nothing but may be useful for provenance tracing, though we have not been able to match this up with any auction appearances in the last 30 years. An interesting variety, two examples are known struck over counterfeit 1709 Spanish pistareens and one is known overstruck on a 1785 Immune Columbia copper, effectively proving these were backdated. Really quite lovely, the Whitman *Encyclopedia* giving a Condition Census range of EF to Unc, though the finest that has appeared at auction in the last 30 years appears to be no better than low-end EF. This is a coin that the collector will cherish and not worry about upgrading – and with the strong 1776 date it is especially pleasing……..……...…….$1,500

A Choice VF 1788 Machin's Mills Halfpenny
Dated 13 years after the last British halfpenny was coined!

Lot 40. 1788 Machin's Mills Halfpenny. Vlack 23-88A. Rarity-2. Choice Very Fine, a well struck example of this popular issue, one of just a couple Machin's Mills varieties that were dated in the year they were actually struck – and this variety was dated 13 years after the last regal British copper halfpence was coined. The legends are full on either side, the individual letters mostly strong, the date bold and completely on the planchet. Excellent design detail for the grade, with some details approaching full EF level. The obverse bust with strong face, hair and mailing design, the reverse figure with most of the folds in her dress visible as well as a strong shield and branch. Pleasing medium brown color, the surfaces hard enough to the eye, a glass showing a number of very fine striae on either side that gives the piece something of a woodgrain look that is quite attractive. A few small circulation marks consistent with the grade, nothing that bothers the eye. While eBay and other sites seem to offer every other counterfeit or regal British halfpenny as "Machin's Mills/Atlee/Blacksmith Token," even the novice collector can be assured that something with a 1787 or 1788 date is a real Machin's Mills product. Not an overly rare variety, and one that can be found in higher grades (the Whitman *Encyclopedia* gives the census as AU to Unc), but still tough to find with nice color and eye appeal. A pleasing example for the type collector, at just…….……$350

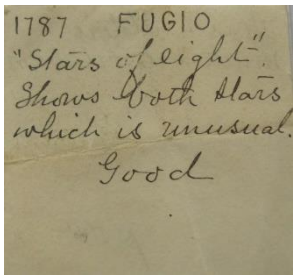
A Strongly Detailed VF Newman 4-E Fugio Copper
The popular Club Rays type

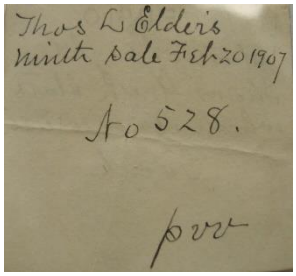
Lot 41. 1787 Fugio Copper. Newman 4-E, a Club Rays type. Rarity-3. Very Fine, nearly in the choice category in terms of color and strike. A lovely example of this scarce type coin, one of really just two collectible varieties with Club Rays (the rays of the sun having rounded ends versus the pointed ends found on other varieties). The all-important obverse is here bold, with FUGIO and the 1787 date sharp and all of MIND YOUR BUSINESS strong and fully on the planchet, unusual for the series. The sundial shows over three quarters of the Roman numerals engraved on its face, and each of the sun's rays above are sharp. The reverse is just a trifle weak at UNITED at the left of the central label, though the letters are all visible, STATES is sharper and WE ARE ONE at the center is bold. Dark chocolate brown fields with much lighter tan legends and design give a lovely two tone look to the piece. The surfaces are hard enough to the eye, with just the faintest roughness visible under a glass, and with a few trivial marks from circulation that are old and toned down to the surface color. The Club Ray varieties are seldom seen in higher grades, none were included in the Bank of New York hoard of Fugio coppers, and none of this variety is known in truly Uncirculated grade (the Rob Retz Condition Census ranged from EF to AU). A perfect mid-level type coin, with wonderful eye appeal for the grade……...……..…….$600

The Very Rare Newman 12-KK Fugio
Unlisted in the original Newman reference
Discovered by Q. David Bowers in 1959
Offered at under $400!

Lot 42. 1787 Fugio Copper. Newman 12-KK. Rarity-6. Very Good overall, some areas a bit stronger, others a bit weaker as struck. On the obverse FUGIO is full, as is MIND YOUR BUSINESS save for the final letter which is off the planchet; the date is weaker but can be partially made out. The sun's face is flat, the sundial evenly worn as expected for the grade, though the position of the legend is all that is needed to firmly attribute the obverse die. The reverse has all 13 interlocked rings sharp enough, with little trace of the legend; luckily the diagnostic of the diebreak connecting the bottom two rings – found only on this reverse – is here sharp and the attribution is certain. Medium brown with some mottled darker hues, the surfaces surprisingly hard for a well-used coin, though there are a number of light hairline scratches on either side which have toned down to the surface color and are not that noticeable without a glass. This is a rare variety and is one that was actually unknown to Eric Newman when he wrote the first edition of his monograph on the series! It was discovered by Q. David Bowers in 1959 and written up in *The Colonial Newsletter* two years later by Edward Barnsley. There were no examples of this variety in the Bank of New York hoard, and only a handful can be considered truly choice – the Rob Retz Condition Census has two AU's, four Choice VF's, an equal number of solid VF's and the remainder in the VG-Fine range. Generally one could expect a big price tag on any "unlisted variety" in the main colonial series, but enough have turned up to move this from an extreme rarity to a moderately rare variety, today considered to be a full Rarity-6. This is a most affordable example indeed!.....$375

The Newman Reverse PLATE COIN
Newman 15-Y, Eight Pointed Stars Reverse, showing BOTH STARS
Ex Hillyer Ryder, F.C.C. Boyd, John J. Ford, Jr.
with Ryder's handwritten ticket!





Lot 43. 1787 Fugio Copper. Newman 15-Y, the Eight-Pointed Stars Reverse. Rarity-2. Extremely Fine or so. This is one of the JOHN FORD coins, and is also the NEWMAN PLATE COIN for the Y reverse, no doubt chosen because of the strength of both the top and bottom eight-pointed star on the reverse label, the latter hardly ever seen struck up. This coin appeared as Lot 296 in the first sale of Ford's coins by Stack's in October, 2003, where it was plated and described as follows:

> **1787 K.15-Y. Fine Rays. 8-Pointed Star on Reverse Label. STATES UNITED. Rarity-3.** A third. Rough Extremely Fine. 155.5 grains. **The Newman Reverse Plate Coin**. The obverse is olive brown and light green, with a scattering of deep red toning; while the reverse is a more even olive and tan. The obverse surface is quite rough in appearance, with some pitting at the top what has obscured the sun face and many of the rays there. The reverse, by contrast, is smoother and harder. This coin was clearly collected for the remarkable fact that **both stars on the reverse label show** (the one at the bottom is usually weak). Most of the numerals on the sundial can be seen, the letters in FUGIO and MIND YOUR are complete, those in BUSINESS are somewhat indistinct, the date is clear, and the STATES UNITED and WE ARE ONE on the reverse are sharp. Struck from the usually seen broken state of both dies.
> *Ex Tom Elder's sale of February 26, 1907, lot 528; Hillyer Ryder; F.C.C. Boyd Estate.*

This description was written by Michael Hodder, with all the care and respect a great collection deserved. The sale was at a time when collector's would still travel cross-country to bid in person (online bidding wasn't usually a good idea in the dial-up age!), and the room was a veritable "who's who" of the colonial hobby. The vast majority of the Fugio Coppers sold to a single collector, one relatively new to the hobby, and few sold to other bidders. While there were three of this variety in the Ford sale, this was arguably the more important of the three given its strong reverse and use as a Newman Plate Coin! There are no Uncs known of the variety, the Condition Census composed of just AU and EF pieces. This coin is accompanied by Hillyer Ryder's original handwritten ticket; there is no lot ticket from the Ford sale, though the coin is easily plate matched to that auction. With most of the Newman plate pieces held in a single collection the opportunity to own one is quite limited today! This historic and important specimen is available at only…….$1,750

A Nice AU Thick Planchet Mott Token, NGC AU50 BN
From the Eric P. Newman collection

Lot 44. 1789 Mott Token, thick planchet, plain edge. About Uncirculated, NGC graded AU50 BN. This is the ERIC P. NEWMAN specimen, and appeared as Lot 30388 in the May, 2014 sale of a portion of his collection by Heritage. It was described there as follows:

> **1789 TOKEN Mott Token, Thick Planchet, Plain Edge AU50 NGC.** The dies used to strike Mott tokens suffered from rust, excessive wear, and breakage, and most resulting tokens exhibit partially obscured legends and little if any detail on the clock face. The large, characteristic die break on the upper-left corner of the clock is in an early state on this lightly circulated piece, with only a fraction of the typically seen break. The border legends are unusually clear, and the light wear seen over the high points of the design has not overly tempered the central sharpness. Glossy auburn-brown patina blankets each side, with no significant surface imperfections.
> *Ex: Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society.*

This is a well-struck example of the type, with a wonderful provenance, still in the original special-edition Newman slab, and it comes with the original large lot ticket from that sale. It realized $763.75 in that sale, a very fair price for an AU piece, and is available today at just…….……$800

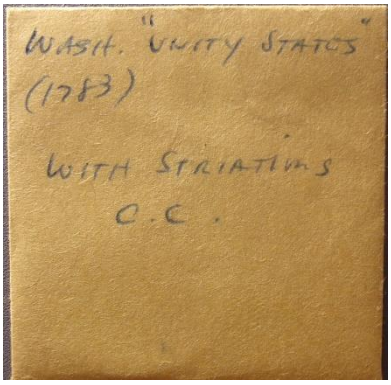
An Extremely Rare PROOF 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent
PCGS Proof 60 with CAC sticker
Ex Don Taxay, with his original envelope

Lot 45. 1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent, with New York. PROOF, PCGS graded PR60BN, and with CAC certification sticker. Undergraded and worth resubmitting by someone who dabbles in such things as it would likely grade 63; there is significant red on the reverse and a lesser amount in the obverse legends, and the CAC sticker attests to it being nicer than the usual "60" coin (the holder is lightly scuffed as well, which makes resubmission even more of a good idea). Regardless of grade this is an EXTREMELY RARE Proof striking – one of only a handful of American colonial coins that exist in this state. The Talbot, Allum & Lee's were struck in England and imported from there to New York, and the few proofs (known for both the 1794 and 1795 dates) were likely made as presentation pieces for the firm – or specially struck for British collectors who would have included these in their "Provincial Token" collections, despite the New York legend (Dalton & Hamer did not include them in their 20th century publication because of that, though they did include the various mules with this obverse die). This example last appeared in the 2011 ANA sale by Stack's Bowers, where it appeared as Lot 6099 and was described as follows:

> **1794 Talbot, Allum & Lee Cent. With NEW YORK. W-8590. URS-12. Small & on Reverse. Lettered Edge. Proof-60 BN (PCGS). CAC.** Dominant olive-brown patina to the obverse, the periphery on that side retains some of the original, albeit faded, rose-orange color. For the reverse we note a blend of pinkish-red color and gray-brown toning, the latter largely confined to the field. Modestly, yet appreciably mirrored in finish, with a sharp to full strike throughout. There are no singularly distracting contact marks, and a couple of minor strikethroughs in the lower right obverse field are as struck.
> *Provenance: From the Howard Collection. Purchased privately from Don Taxay in the 1970s. Paper envelope with Taxay's original notes included.*

The provenance to Don Taxay is interesting, as he was one of the more gifted researchers and writers, approaching Walter Breen in level of fame in the 1970s – and he then abruptly disappeared from the hobby. His original envelope is included with this lot, and the coin was priced at $850 in the 1970s – a small fortune at the time and an amount that would purchase SEVERAL R-8 state copper varieties! We note that a Proof 65 sold in the 2018 C4 sale for a whopping $6,900 – that coin had significantly more red, while this one possesses more obviously proof surfaces. A lovely example, a "special" American colonial, and a wonderful provenance……..……....$2,250

A Gorgeous About Uncirculated Washington Unity States
One of the Finest Known
Ex Ted Craige collection
PCGS AU55



Lot 46. 1783 Washington Unity States Cent. Baker 1, Vlack 27-W, Breen 1188, Fuld WA.NC.1783.1, Musante GW-104. Choice About Uncirculated, in a PCGS slab where this is graded AU55. This is the TED CRAIGE specimen and appeared in the Stack's Bowers sale of his collection in January, 2013 where it was Lot 11469, plated and described as follows:

> **"1783" (Circa 1820) Washington Unity States Cent. Baker-1, W-10130. Rarity-1. AU-55 (PCGS).** 119.5 grains. Deep golden-tan surfaces are hard and glossy in appearance, and low magnification does little to dispel the first impression. Usual planchet striations, here at the bottom of the obverse affecting the date, and around the rim in several areas on the reverse. Choice for the grade both physically and aesthetically. *Provenance: From the Ted L. Craige Collection. Paper envelope included.*

Despite its 1783 date (and the honor of being the first piece listed in the 1885 Baker work on Washingtonia), there is no way this variety could have been struck in that year, as the reverse design closely resembles the 1794 large cents, with the word UNITY substituted for UNITED – probably an effort to evade anti-counterfeiting laws, much as some of the later Hard Time Tokens issues carry a tiny "NOT" over the denomination of "ONE CENT." A choice example for the specialist or type collector, and certainly one of the finest known – something Ted Craige recognized over 50 years ago since he noted it was C.C. (Condition Census) on his envelope! While there are a few that have been slabbed as fully Uncirculated they do not have the same color and gloss as the present specimen (see the example in the 2010 C4 sale for instance, which was slabbed as MS63 despite what looks like rub, heavy striations and some verdigris spots clearly removed from either side – apparently sometimes it's all about who you know!). The eye appeal on this specimen is superb, it will not be a coin that is upgraded. Ted Craige's original handwritten envelope is included……..……..……..….$1,600

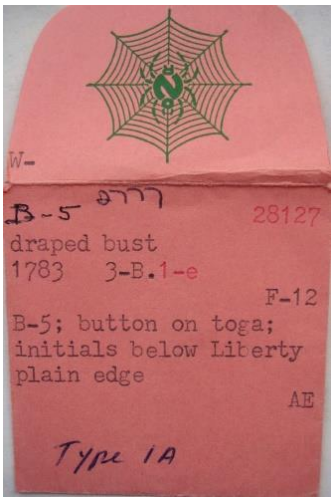
An UNLISTED Unity States Cent STRUCK IN BRASS

Lot 47. 1783 Washington Unity States Cent. Baker 1, etc., another, but thisan UNLISTED STRIKE IN BRASS.. Very Fine, with some post-strike damage, in a PCGS slab where this is certified as genuine and "Damage – Very Fine Details." This piece appeared in the Stack's Bowers 2018 C4 sale as Lot 6291 where it was described as follows:

> **"1783" (ca. 1820) Unity States Cent. Brass. Musante GW-104, Baker-1. Rarity-1 for Copper, but Unlisted in Brass. VF Details--Damage (PCGS).** 111.04 grains. This is an intriguing example of the popular Unity States issue, struck on a crudely formed and brassy planchet. The lower right reverse features a significant void near the rim that appears to have formed after striking, as the remaining letters of AMERICA are clearly defined on the metal within. Distortion to the surfaces opposite this void also suggests post-mint damage. At the upper left of the reverse is an area of natural planchet striation which obscures the Y of UNITY and the S of STATES, causing a softness on the corresponding obverse that is familiar to this variety. Somewhat glossy on the high points which points to an old cleaning, and toned in honey-gold, espresso, and powder blue hues throughout.
> *Provenance: From the Cohasco Collection of Colonials formed by Sir Philip H. Snyder, circa 1963-68.*

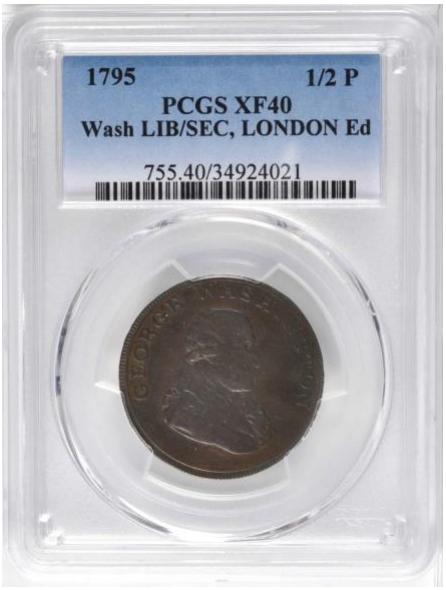
One of the more interesting new finds in the Washingtonia series – but not an unexpected one. Extremely rare brass strikes are known for a handful of the early-dated issues, including a Draped Bust cent in brass, ex Norweb collection, that we offered on our 18th Fixed Price List. The famous Garrett collection contained brass strikes of the 1791 Small Eagle cent, the 1793 Washington Ship halfpenny and the 1795 Grate Halfpenny, while there is also a brass Liberty and Security Penny known. The reason for these brass strikes (and the occasional other off metal pieces) was clearly for the collector market – all these types were struck in England, where collectors avidly added them to their cabinets (while Washington had cost Britain her American colonies the way he handled himself after the Revolution and during his term in office – especially when he walked away from power – was something that earned him the respect of that country as well as our own). These same collectors also paid premiums for silver, brass and white metal strikes of the Provincial Tokens ("Conder" tokens), and some of these Washington pieces are also listed as part of the Provincial Token series as well. Most brass strikes exist in choice condition precisely because they were saved by collectors, but not always – this one apparently escaped into circulation where it was used and slightly abused, though its unusual metal is still obvious today. Those higher grade brass strikes, each of which is unique or one of just a couple known, have sold in the mid-to-high four-figures. This example, not as nice but just as rare, is surely a bargain at just……..……..$750

Mrs. Norweb's Baker-5 Washington Cent
with her original printed, typed and handwritten envelope



Lot 48. 1783 [i.e. 1815-1820] Washington Draped Bust Cent, With Button on Toga. Baker 5, Vlack 20-P, Breen 1198, Fuld WA.NC.1783.19, Musante GW-108, plain edge. High Rarity-6. Choice Very Fine, some details easily into the EF range. Full, strong legends and date, sharp design detail on either side. Medium brown, the surfaces with the light marks expected from a circulated issue, but nothing that distracts. The With Button type was considered an extreme rarity when Baker wrote his reference, with the one in the Crosby sale then considered unique. While the cataloguing of the Crosby collection leaves much to be desired, it appears that Lot 286 of the 1883 auction was the piece in question, there only described as "Uncirculated. Light olive. Plain edge." It brought $4.25 in that sale, which doesn't seem like much, but the same amount would have bought a nice Washington North Wales Halfpenny with two stars on either side of the harp (today a $15,000+ coin) with almost enough left over to buy a Washington Seasons medal in silver that had probably been worn by an Indian! The present example is from the NORWEB collection, and comes with Mrs. Norweb's distinct typed and handwritten custom made envelope – note the design on the reverse flap, a spider with a body made with the letter N, the letter O making its head, the letter R its posterior – NOR in a spider WEB, making NORWEB! A lovely example or a rare variety, with an outstanding provenance and accompanied by the historical envelope, all for just……..…….....$375

PCGS XF40 Washington Liberty and Security Halfpenny
Baker 31, with London edge



Lot 49. 1795 Washington Liberty and Security Halfpenny. Baker 31, Breen 1260, Fuld WA.1795.1, Dalton & Hamer Middlesex 1052a, Musante GW-38, usual lettered edge PAYABLE AT LONDON LIVERPOOL OR BRISTOL. Rarity-3. Extremely Fine, in a PCGS slab where this is accurately graded XF40. Well struck for the issue, which nearly always has Washington's head flat on the obverse, here showing some detail in the face, hair and uniform. The eagle and shield reverse design is sharper than normally seen. Full legends and date as expected for the grade. Nice medium brown, a few trivial circulation marks that you need a glass to see and essentially a perfect coin for the grade. Struck in England and part of both the 18th century Provincial ("Conder") Token series as well as the American colonial series; as the average grade for the type seems to be in the VF level they certainly circulated – one just wonders on which side of the Atlantic!.....$700

One of the nicest Washington North Wales Halfpennies seen!
A VERY strong strike, unheard of for this issue

Lot 50. Undated (1795) Washington North Wales Halfpenny. Baker 34, Breen 1294, Fuld WA.1795.7, Musante GW-51, plain edge type. Rarity-4. Extremely Fine, an outstanding grade level for the variety, and almost never found in this condition. Rather boldly struck for an issue that is almost always seen weak. The legends are full on either side and design detail as sharp as any example we have seen – with full facial features on Washington, strong design on the front of his uniform and a bold harp on the reverse, the crown above the harp showing nearly all of its finer detail. There is a weakness at only the high point of Washington's hair and epaulet and at the far left strings on the interior of the harp – this due to the very thin planchets used for this issue as there simply was not enough metal available to flow into the deepest parts of the dies. Medium brown, the surfaces surprisingly hard to the eye, even with some light marks and a trace of minor roughness – this as expected since these were likely put into a "trouncing sack" after minting to impart light wear and marks and thus make a newly-made coin appear at least slightly used. Originally considered an evasion copper, where this was listed as Atkins-132 (and still listed as such in the Cobwright reference on evasion coppers, where it is called G.0120/N.0190). While this reverse is known only with this obverse, the reverse with two stars at each side of the harp is paired with this obverse and two different evasion copper obverses, effectively tying the entire series together. While still collected with the evasion or "bungtown" series, the Washington obverse clearly links them to America as well, meaning it is in demand on both sides of the Atlantic. Tough to find any sharper, the EF Norweb piece shows the same detail as this and brought $2,300 back in 2006, while one graded AU-55 (but not showing more detail than this, just more luster) brought a jaw-dropping $5,060 in the Stack's Bowers December, 2005 auction, a record for the variety. A nicer example will not be easily found, and certainly nowhere near this price…….……...$900

An AFFORDABLE Washington Born Virginia Copper, Baker 60

George Fuld estimates just 40-50 known in all grades

Lot 51. Undated (1792) Washington Born Virginia "Cent." Baker 60, Breen 1239, Fuld WA.1792.9, Musante GW-33, the second die pairing of this popular and rare issue, and one that was actually struck while Washington was still in office. Low Rarity-6. Very Good, the reverse a shade weaker as always the case on the issue. The first few letters of the obverse legend gone, the rest there and mostly strong, the bust of the General fully outlined and with some detail in the face and coat. The reverse shows close to two-thirds of the legends, the letters and numerals ranging from weak to sharp for the grade. Medium brown, the surfaces with a light roughness that isn't unexpected. A well-worn example of this RARE variety, one of the most popular of the colonial-era Washington issues, clearly linked to the 1792-dated Washington pattern coinages as they share die linkage with some of the "John Hancock" patterns, and stylistic similarities with others in that series, as well as with the 1792 Getz pattern "half dollar" issues. While certainly struck in England, the vast majority of the surviving population are well-used, but where they circulated is uncertain – as is the value they would have been accepted at in commerce, since they were far heavier than any of the state coinages that would still be seen in the early United States, but lighter than the 1793-dated chain cents that would soon be minted. In his ANS monograph, the late George Fuld noted that perhaps 40-50 are known in copper in all grades. The vast majority are known in circulated conditions, with EF's and above being rare – and expensive. Lower circulated grade examples are a lot more affordable for most collectors.……$950

From Presidential Coin and Antique Co's June, 2011 sale, Lot 149, accompanied by the original lot ticket.

The Exceedingly Rare Washington Manly Medal struck in WHITE METAL, Baker 61A
NGC Certified
Only 19 examples traced by George Fuld!

Lot 52. 1790 Manly Medal. First Obverse. White Metal. Baker-61A, Musante GW-10. High Rarity-6. Extremely Fine details, in an extremely large format NGC slab where this is graded XF Details, Damaged, which is fair enough – the damage consisting of numerous light scratches on either side of the medal, all ancient and toned down, resembling the marks found on Indian Peace Medals and though unholed one wonders if this may have served a similar function. Other than the scratches, the medal is fully of EF or better quality, the legends full (including the small J. MANLY &C at the base of the reverse which is often seen scraped off), and the somewhat unflattering portrait of Washington on the obverse strongly detailed. This first Manly Medal type was struck in 1790 – when Washington was still alive and it was the first Washington medal to be struck in the United States, cementing its importance in early American numismatics. The medal was struck in four metals – gold (unique and in the Massachusetts Historical Society today), silver (extremely rare with perhaps 5-6 known), white metal and bronze. In the Rulau-Fuld reference the white metal is listed as 8-10 known examples, while in George Fuld's October, 2008 article in *The Numismatist*, he listed 19 different white metal pieces and "more than 100" in bronze. Musante lists only the silver and white metal pieces as Very Rare (the gold one listed as unique of course). The white metal strikes tend to bring in the mid-four figure range when sold – though that is only when major collections come to market. A pleasing and affordably example of a historic medal, one that ever colonial enthusiast should own – and since the white metal is significantly rarer than the bronze issues but sells for about the same price, it seems like an even better buy!.....$1,250

Mrs. Norweb's Washington Repub Ameri "Penny" in White Metal NGC Graded MS62

Ford: "Quite rare and underappreciated"

Lot 53. "1796" Washington Repub. Ameri. Medal. Baker 69A, Fuld WA.1800.1b.WM, Dalton & Hamer Middlesex 245 *bis*, Musante GW-62. White Metal. Rarity-5. Choice Uncirculated, in an NGC Slab where this is graded MS62. This is the NORWEB specimen and appeared in the Stack's November, 2006 sale of that collection where this was Lot 4153, plated and described as follows:

> **1796 (i.e. 1800) Washington Repub. Ameri. medal. Baker-69A, Breen-1281. MS-62 (NGC).** White metal. A pleasing example of the second variety of this medalet, using an obverse modified to note the 1799 date of Washington's death rather than the 1796-dated first obverse. Deep pewter gray with traces of bright and reflective brilliance around devices. The fields are a bit granular, as almost always seen on specimens of this reactive composition. The details are excellent and no major flaws are seen. We note a dig under the first N of WASHINGTON, dig on his shoulder, no other significant contact points. A very pleasing example overall. Ford owned only one specimen in white metal from these dies, described as "quite rare and underappreciated as such."
>
> **The NGC label attributes the date of this piece as (1870). We hope it is a typo, as otherwise the presence of that date utterly mystifies us.**

Apparently this typo has plagued NGC for some time as just about every example they slab bears the impossible 1870 date, while PCGS does routinely give the correct 1800 one; this typo appears to have originated with the Rulau-Fuld book which has the same mistake though the text makes it clear that 1800 is what is intended. A classic issue, popular both with British collectors (where this is part of the 18th Century Provincial Token series) and American collectors of both colonial coins and the larger field of medals. These are the size of the Soho Mint pennies of the era and many saw circulation, some quite extensively. This choice example was certainly in the cabinet of a 19th century collector before making its way to the Norweb collection; pleasing and with an outstanding provenance……..……..…$950

No lot ticket from the Norweb sale, though easily plate matched to that specimen.

The Extremely Rare 1824 Washington/Lafayette Visit Medal
a tiny medal, struck in SILVER
these dies usually seen countermarked on coins,
none in this format in the John Ford collection!

Lot 54. 1824 George Washington Lafayette Visit Medal. Silver. 14 mm. Baker-198A, Musante GW-112, Fuld LA.1824.12. Rarity-7 or so in silver. Very Fine, NOT pierced at the top for suspension, much rarer as such. A pleasing example of this very small (14.45mm) silver medal, well struck with clean, even wear – most likely from being a pocket piece or possibly inserted into a piece of jewelry, not from actual circulation (though the piece would probably have been accepted in commerce as a half dime). One side features a bust of Lafayette facing to the right, his name surrounding, the date below; the other side has a bust of Washington facing to the left, his name surrounding. Good design detail for the grade, with just a few light contact marks on the darker gray surfaces; a slight bend can be seen when viewed by the edge, this perhaps from being mounted in jewelry to be worn at the various festivities honoring Lafayette. Musante illustrates an example mounted in a large star, and other jewelry uses are probable since the majority seen have either been holed or have had loops attached, showing that they were made to be worn, much like the Washington Funeral Medals. None are known in truly choice condition. Given the popularity of George Washington ever since the Revolution, combined with the popularity of Lafayette during his first visit back to America in 1824 one would expect these to have been struck in some quantity, but they are quite rare today. These are known in gold, silver and white metal, but these dies were used more often to counterstamp U.S. coins, including large cents, dimes and half dollars, as well as unique examples over Spanish 1 and 2 Reale coins. The Ford collection contained the largest offering of these very rare 1824 Washington-Lafayette counterstamps from these dies on coins, yet oddly did not have a specimen of this medalette in silver, a telling comment on its rarity indeed, as Ford tended to have everything that was available, often in multiple! He did have a unique uniface obverse strike, as well as three counterstamped on large cents and two on half dollars – those pieces ranging in price from $2,530 to $12,650. None in the Norweb sale, though the family likely donated their example to the Western Reserve Historical Society, and we offered that specimen on our last fixed price list. A pleasing example of this rare, tiny issue, and even rarer without a hole or loop attached…..…….$900

The Marquis de Lafayette was 67 years old when he returned to America, accompanied by his son - named Georges Washington, a mark of the respect he felt for his late commander for his entire life. Lafayette lived through the American Revolution as well as the French Revolution – and the 1830 Revolution in France after his return from his final trip to America.

THE LAST LOT: A SPECIAL OFFERING OF COUNTERSTAMPED COLONIAL COINS

Lot 55. A SPECIAL GROUP. FIVE different counterstamped colonial coins, each on a different type coin, most with a great provenance. Included are:

- J.Mc.L.in a prepared punch on the reverse of a sharp VF 1785 Nova Constellatio copper, Crosby 4-D
- (C)ASTSTEEL in a prepared punch on the obverse of a 1786 Connecticut Copper, Miller 1-A (a rather scarce variety, in Choice VF condition), ex Steve Tannenbaum collection
- STEVE in a prepared punch on the obverse of a 1787 Connecticut Copper, Miller 14-H, ex Steve Tannenbaum collection, in Fine/VG grade
- B. PRATT in a prepared rectangular punch on the obverse of a 1787 Connecticut Copper, Miller 33.32-Z.13,VF with nice color, ex Q. David Bowers collection
- T. E. ROGERS in a prepared punch on both obverse and reverse of a choice EF grade 1787 Fugio Copper, Newman 17-S, ex Q. David Bowers collection

All counterstamps are strong and the conditions of the host coins are surprisingly nice. Counterstamped colonial coins are extremely rare when done with prepared punches (stray letter and number punches are not that rare and are usually considered damage). Some of these counterstamps likely traceable to issuer, a fun bit of historical research for their next owner to pursue. The counterstamped Nova Constellatio and Fugio copper are especially rare host coins. Highly collectible, sold here as a group of five coins for just……..……..$2,750

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